**Actual Utilisation of Irrigation Potential**

2593, SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether -it is a fact that actual utilisation of irrigation potential has been less than irrigation potential created since the beginning of the First Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what have been State-wise actual utilisation against irrigation potential created, and the reasons for shortfall;

(c) waht meaiurei are proposed to fully ttilise existing irrigation potential already created and within what time span;

(d) whether any estimates have been made of loss of crop production as a result of lower utilisation of irrigation potentials*,' and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise, details of irrigation poten tial created and utilisation of created irrigation potential are given in the en closed Statement *(See below).* As regards reasons for shortfall, it may-be stated that a lag of *a* few years between the intro duction of irrigation and its full utilisation is un-avoidable as creation of potential and its utilisation is a continuous process and it takes time for the farmers to construct the fields channels and to prepare tha land for irrigated farming. Also the switchover from rainfed agriculture to irrigated agriculture involves a major change in agricultural techniques which farmers take time to master. Less water availability as compared to the water availability assumed at the design stage due to low rainfall in catchment areas, poor maintenance of irrigation infrastructures, change in cropping pattern and poor water managemnct at farm level also contribute to low utilisation of irrigation potential.

(c) To bridge the gap between irrigation potential created and its utilisation, a Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development programme is under implementation sinee 1974-75. The programme *Inter alia* envisaged an integrated approach for all the activities crucial for increasing Agricultural Productivity and Production in the command of irrigation projects through latter utilisation of created irrigation potential. In addition, States are also advise from time to time to take appropriate measure such as proper maintenance of irrigation facilities, improvement of irrigation efficiency, adoption of improved water management techniques, promotion of appropriate cropping pattern and discouragement of water-intensive crops wherever possible, adoption of drip and sprinkler irrigation systems and promotion of farmers participation in irrigation management with a view to improve the utilisation of created irrigation potential.

(d) and (c) No estimation of loss of crop due to lower utilisation of irrgation potential has been made as it is difficult to make such assessment. The crop production depends on various inputs besides water such as fertilizers, seeds, soil condition and cropping pattern etc.

**Statement**

*rrigation Potential Cerated and Utilised Through Major Medium/Minor Irrigation Schemes for the Period at the End of 1996-97*

(In thousand hectares)*

| 1. Jo. | States/UTs | Potential Created | | | Potential Utilised | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Major & Medium | Minor | Total | Major & Medium | Minor | Total |
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| . | A.P. | 3047.10 | 2901.87 | 5948.97 | 2883.80 | 2687.16 | 5570.96 |
| | Ar. Pradesh | 0.00 | 83.42 | 83.42 | 0.00 | 65.54 | 65.54 |
| | Assam | 189.57 | 592.76 | 789.43 | 138.17 | 484.45 | 622.62 |
| | Bihar | 2802.50 | 5108.24 | 7910.74 | 2324.20 | 4573.70 | 5897.90 |
| | Goa | 13.02 | 20.52 | 33.54 | 12.07 | 17.77 | 29.84 |
| | Gujarat | 1350.00 | 1935.30 | 3285.30 | 1200.00 | 1839.62 | 3039.62 |
| | Haryana | 2078.79 | 1576.77 | 3655.56 | 1833.62 | 1531.62 | 3365.24 |
| | H. P. | 10.55 | 150.38 | 160.93 | 5.59 | 128.42 | 134.01 |
| | J & K | 173.70 | 378.68 | 552.38 | 147.57 | 364.64 | 512.21 |
| 0. | Karnataka | 1666.02 | 1531.01 | 3197.03 | 1471.70 | 1488.71 | 2960.41 |
| 1. | Kerala | 513.31 | 573.12 | 1086.43 | 464.31 | 537.49 | 1001.80 |
| 2. | M. P. | 2178.30 | 2657.52 | 4835.82 | 1551.30 | 2422.02 | 3973.32 |
| 3. | Maharashtra | 2313.00 | 2619.20 | 4932.20 | 1287.70 | 2341.10 | 3628.80 |
| 4. | Manipur | 63.00 | 60.89 | 123.39 | 52.00 | 51.19 | 103.19 |
| 5. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 46.64 | 46.64 | 0.00 | 40.33 | 40.33 |
| 6. | Mizoram | 0.00 | 12.71 | 12.71 | 0.00 | 11.20 | 11.20 |
| 7. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 67.24 | 67.24 | 0.00 | 57.93 | 57.93 |
| 8. | Orissa | 1557.75 | 1357.47 | 2915.22 | 1442.66 | 1227.05 | 2669.71 |
| 9. | Punjab | 2512.85 | 3354.17 | 5867.02 | 2452.34 | 3296.12 | 5748.46 |
| 0 | Rajasthan | 2285.57 | 2421.24 | 4706.81 | 2086.31 | 2336.78 | 4423.09 |
| 1. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 26.23 | 26.23 | 0.00 | 20.59 | 20.59 |
| 2. | Tamil Nadu | 1545.51 | 2115.22 | 3660.73 | 1545.49 | 2111.36 | 3656.85 |
| 3. | Tripura | 2.30 | 92.58 | 94.88 | 2.30 | 84.03 | 86.33 |
| 4. | U. P. | 7059.00 | 23595.00 | 80654.00 | 6126.00 | 21923.00 | 28049.00 |
| 5. | W. Bengal | 1444.08 | 3217.37 | 4661.45 | 1332.52 | 2576.90 | 3909.42 |
| | Total-states | 32813.02 | 56495.05 | J89308.07 | 28359.65 | 52218.72 | 80578.37 |

Figures are provisional.

**2.00 NOON**

**LECTION OP DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

[R. CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up e motion for election of Deputy Chair-an. There are 20 motions for election of eputy Chairperson.

Members who have given notices can ove them one by one and in each case ie motion will be seconded.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): I beg to move the following Motion:

"That Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I second the Motion.